

Remarks

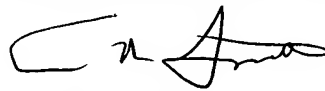
Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-24 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 9, and 17 being the independent claims. New claims 17-24 are sought to be added for examination on the merits. The Title is amended to provide a more accurate overview of features included in some of the pending claims. In addition, the Field of the Invention, Summary of the Invention, and Abstract are amended to increase their clarity. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. Applicant believes the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

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